

BOERS RETREATING ALL ALONG THE LINE

Now Rapidly Leaving All Positions Held in the British Territory.

THEY MAY ABANDON LADYSMITH

General Buller Thinks They Are About to Raise the Siege—Relaxing Their Hold on All Sides in Order to Assemble to Oppose General Roberts. Cronje May Have Escaped.

London, Feb. 21.—4.15 a. m.—The Boers are leaving all the positions held by them on British territory and are concentrating for the defense of their own. Sir Redvers Buller thinks they are about to raise the siege of Ladysmith and this is the large news of the day.

General Clements reports that the force confronting him has been greatly diminished. Ten thousand men are estimated to have gone from the Colenso district alone. The Boers are also retreating their steps from Zululand. Thus they are relaxing their hold on all sides in order to assemble to oppose Lord Roberts. He is pressing on steadily towards Bloemfontein. This is shown by his inconsequential telegram from Paardeberg, fifty or sixty miles away. Doubtless he is miles behind the column that is pursuing the Boers and the next important news may be the occupation of Bloemfontein.

Nothing has been heard from the chase of Cronje for two days. Although the last words of the war office tonight that there was no news for public consumption, there is strong disposition to believe that favorable information has been received but is being withheld until the operation culminates in something more conclusive. There is an equally strong disposition to think that General Cronje has got away.

Owing to the lack of transports the British are not likely to invade Boer territory except where Lord Roberts is operating. General Buller will have to stop at the Drakensburg mountains. Probably a part of his 30,000 men will ultimately join the legions of Lord Roberts.

If, as General Buller avers, the Boers are retreating from him, then the news on every side is favorable to the British. Nevertheless troops continue to go up. The war office thinks that the call to veterans to rejoin the colors, together with the bounty, will bring 45,000 men to the home defense. The urgency with which the home defense is pressed excites some wonder.

With the casualties just reported, the British losses in killed, wounded and captured now aggregate 11,102.

General Hart Occupies Colenso. London, Feb. 20.—News was received here at 3.22 p. m. today that General Hart had occupied Colenso after a slight engagement.

The following despatch has been received at the war office from General Buller:

"Blows Farm, Tuesday, Feb. 20, 6.10 p. m.—The Fusilier Brigade yesterday took Hlangwane Hill, the right of the enemy's position, and commanding Colenso, the rest of the force advancing toward the Tugela.

"This morning the enemy had withdrawn all the troops north of the Tugela and had practically evacuated Colenso. Today General Hart occupied Colenso, after a very slight resistance by a weak rear guard, and we hold the line of the Tugela on the south side from Colenso to Eagle's Nest."

"The enemy seem to be in full retreat and apparently are only holding the position they occupy across the Colenso-Ladysmith railway, where it is close to the angle of the Tugela, with a weak rear guard. Hart's advanced guard is crossing at Colenso.

"Our casualties yesterday and today have, I hope, been but few."

The queen, prior to leaving Osborne House this morning, on her return to Windsor, inspected the Fourth Battalion of the Lincolnshire militia. Her majesty announced with a gratified smile that good news had been received this morning from the seat of war.

Another account says that the queen specified that the good news was from Ladysmith.

Whatever the news may be it is being carefully guarded. The war office officials averred solemnly today that they had received no dispatches up to 1.30 o'clock this afternoon.

The Westminster Gazette's military critic said today that he believed that the Boers had started northward in Natal, and would raise the siege of Ladysmith and reinforce General Cronje.

A dispatch from Pietermaritzburg, dated Monday, February 19, says all

THOMAS REOPENS JAMESON RAID

PREVIOUS INQUIRY IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN FARCICAL.

The Liberal Member from Merthyr Moves for the Reopening of the Celebrated Case—Mr. Chamberlain Replies and Ridicules the Grounds Advanced for a New Inquiry—Sir William Vernon Harcourt Follows Mr. Chamberlain.

London, Feb. 20.—The house of commons was crowded today when Mr. David Alfred Thomas, Liberal member for Merthyr Tydvil, rose to move the re-opening of the inquiry on the origin and circumstances of the Jameson raid. Among those in the diplomatic circle was United States Ambassador Choate. Mr. Thomas disclaimed any personal animosity against Mr. Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, but he continued, the conclusive nature of the first inquiry had created wide-spread dissatisfaction, which Mr. Thomas asserted, had deepened the indignation at the disclosures of the colonial papers, and impugning the impartiality of the committee. He said it was to the interests of the nation and the character and reputation of the house of commons and Mr. Chamberlain that there should be a full and searching inquiry. Mr. Thomas further asserted that the previous inquiry was a farce and that the fresh facts adduced in the correspondence published by the Independence were strong matters for a fresh inquiry.

Mr. Samuel Thomas Evans, Liberal member for the middle division of Glamorganshire, seconded the motion. In so doing he agreed that there were strong grounds for suspecting that the colonial officers and Mr. Chamberlain had prior knowledge of the events leading to the raid.

Mr. Chamberlain amid profound attention, said there was absolutely nothing in what had happened since 1887 which could possibly be raised as grounds for a second inquiry.

He then proceeded to review the whole history of the committee and repeated his previous statement, especially referring to the Hawley's argument. Mr. Chamberlain ridiculed the grounds advanced for a new inquiry and said the "precious bundles of documents" published by the Independence were not worth the paper they were printed on.

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"There is nothing in these documents, from first to last," said the colonial secretary, when then dissected most of the documents, pointing out that they afforded the committee the charges against the colonial officers. He then said: "If the matter had been complicated by political matters and personal animosities no man in this house would have said there was a shadow of ground for such an inquiry. The object of the personal attacks is to prevent me from participating in the Transvaal settlement."

Continuing, he said he was not hopeful that anything he or the house could do would silence his foreign critics, but no one in Great Britain for whose good opinion he cared would be affected by the charges. He then, in conducting the business of the committee and the closing of the inquiry, he declared, were carried out as suggested by Sir William Vernon Harcourt, who certainly did not desire to shield any one in the colonial office. Mr. Chamberlain further stated that the members of the committee did not want any inquiry. "They want an execution," he added. "Let them do their worst. I am perfectly ready. I rely upon the good sense and generosity of the house and country. The attack will recoil upon those who make it."

At the conclusion of his remarks Mr. Chamberlain was heartily cheered by the ministerialists.

Sir William Vernon Harcourt, who was an active member of the parliamentary committee which inquired into the Jameson raid, followed Mr. Chamberlain. He said: "On the very face of it the former committee's report did not find that there has been a full inquiry, as indeed there had not been. The suspicions against the colonial office were not the work of political adversaries, but rather of men who for their own objects, stoop at nothing in the way of mendacity, forgery and fraud. The authors of these suspicions were the agents of Cecil Rhodes. To cover their own guilt they sought to assert the complicity of the colonial office. Dr. Jameson told Sir John Willoughby, a member of unquestioned honor, that the government was behind the raid, and Dr. Jameson has not denied it."

Mr. Chamberlain—"Yes, he has."

Cause of Insurrection. Sir William Vernon Harcourt continued by the foulest frauds. Was there ever anything as abominable as the Rhodes letter to Jameson, two days before the raid, putting into his mouth what he about the objects of the raid. When the colonial secretary after the raid asked for an explanation of the Rhodes letter, Harveys wrote back that this was unnecessary, as the colonial office knew all.

"Therefore, suspicions were set afloat by the agents of Rhodes, but then there was no suggestion that they were covered by the complicity of the colonial office. That is what I want to have shown up. I want the transactions of these men brought to light. Rhodes has deceived everybody. The raid was made by gold and lies."

After some further discussion the house rejected the motion to reopen the inquiry by a vote of 286 against 152.

Wemiss Motion Rejected. London, Feb. 20.—The house of lords tonight rejected a motion of Lord Wemiss by a vote of 69 against 42 favoring an amended military bill act.

GUILTY AS INDICTED. Verdict in Case of Colonel Streator and Major Kay.

Washington, Pa., Feb. 20.—"Guilty as indicted" was the return made by the jury this morning in the case against Lieutenant Colonel James B. Streator, of Washington, and Major J. C. Kay, of Pittsburgh, who were charged with embezzlement as a banker. At the November term Hazlett was convicted. The Commonwealth's testimony was that the defendants had made friends with a juror from McDonald named Watson. Streator had drinks with him at the Washington club and at a friend's room at the Audubon, and there Streator had spoken condemning Howard Hazlett, a material commonwealth witness, in Watson's presence.

When District Attorney Templeton moved for sentence Major Kay, replying to the court's action, said: "I say, 'Yes,'" and Colonel Streator, "Nothing at all." Judge Taylor sentenced them to pay costs of prosecution and a fine of \$300 each. D. P. Patterson, of Pittsburgh, and John C. Bane asked the court to fix bail preparatory to an appeal to the supreme court. The bail was set at \$500 each. Judge Taylor, upon the return of the verdict, stated the court agreed with the verdict, which was warranted by the evidence.

MIDDLE OF-THE-ROAD POPULISTS BOLT

National Convention of the Regulars Will Be Held in Sioux Falls May 9.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 20.—The next national convention of the Populist party will be held in Sioux Falls on May 9. Representation is based on the vote for General G. B. Weaver for president in 1892, or if any candidate for state office has since polled a larger vote that vote shall be the basis. Two delegates-at-large are given to each state.

This was the decision in a somewhat extended but harmonious meeting of the fusion wing of the national committee, which concluded this afternoon. The feature of the meeting was the unanimity with which the members accepted and endorsed the declaration by Senator Allen, of Nebraska, that W. J. Bryan would be the candidate of both the Populist and Democratic parties and the coupling with his name of that of Judge Henry Caldwell, of Arkansas, as the logical and most promising vice-presidential possibility. Senator Allen went so far as to say that he had positive knowledge that if Judge Caldwell were nominated by the Populists as Mr. Bryan's running-mate he would be acceptable to the Democrats and the fusion national ticket would be Bryan and Caldwell.

The Populist national convention, presided over by Senator Butler, today took up the question of time and place for the national convention. A proposal from the Texas delegation that May 9 be fixed upon as the date was amended to permit a committee to decide on both time and place. The amendment was opposed vigorously by Judge Henry Caldwell, of Arkansas, and trickling to the Democrats. Senator Allen, of Nebraska, spoke at length in favor of the harmony and for the naming of a date by the whole committee. "Bryan will be the nominee of both Democrats and Populists," said Senator Allen, "and the question of date makes little difference anyhow." The amendment to refer to a committee was voted down, and Wednesday, May 9, the same date as that of the middle-of-the-road convention at Cincinnati, was decided upon.

Three sisters Kansas City, Sioux Falls and Indianapolis, present at the convention, and each was granted unlimited time to set forth its respective advantages.

Sioux Falls, S. D., was finally selected for the next Populist convention.

Chairman Butler, in a statement to the Associated Press at the conclusion of the meeting, said he had no regrets for his decision of yesterday which led to the bolt of the middle-of-the-road men.

"It was a bolt here or at the convention," said Mr. Butler, "and we preferred that the disturbers show their hands early in the fight."

UMLER ENDS TROUBLE.

A Tailor Out of Work Shoots His Wife and Commits Suicide.

Allentown, Feb. 20.—William Umler, a tailor, today shot his wife in the left cheek, causing a severe but not serious wound. He then shot himself dead.

The couple had frequent quarrels on account of Umler's failure to provide for the wife and two children. Umler had been out of work for a couple of weeks. He was 45 years of age. His mother, Mrs. Jacob Umler, lives in Philadelphia. The couple had been married seventeen years.

RAILROAD TO KIMBERLEY OPEN

Train Laden with Coal Left Cape Town Last Night.

Cape Town, Feb. 19.—Repairs to the railroad have been advanced sufficiently to enable the dispatch tonight of the first train to Kimberley, laden with coal.

After that the military requirements are to be the first consideration; see the foodstuffs and then passengers, which latter train, it is anticipated, is to be started on Wednesday or Thursday.

Senate and House Conferees.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The senate and house conferees on the house bill were in session several hours today, but it was announced at the adjournment that no agreement had been reached on any point, although the prospects were that an agreement would be reached. The time in conference today was consumed in the discussion and in going over the bill.

Mirror Trust Next.

Pittsburg, Feb. 20.—The executive board of the American Mirror Manufacturers association met here today. An advance in price is contemplated, owing to the increase in the cost of plate glass. It is reported that at the meeting tomorrow plans will be completed for a consolidation of the interests.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Boston, Feb. 20.—Rev. W. H. Brooks, D. D., for many years secretary of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Massachusetts, died at his room in the Revere house today.

THE PUERTO RICAN TARIFF MEASURE

DEMOCRATS WHO WILL SUPPORT THE BILL.

Sufficient Probably to Offset Any Republican Defection—Some Delegates from the Island Who Advocate Free Trade Have Personal Ends to Serve—Congress in No Humor to Grant Statehood.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The discussion of the Puerto Rican tariff bill in the house develops the fact that its measure is to be accorded some Democratic support, more than sufficient to offset any Republican defection. Three Democrats from Louisiana and two Democrats from Florida will vote for the bill as a means of avoiding competition from Puerto Rican imports. Mr. Berry, of Kentucky, is also expected to vote for the bill. There may be others. Many Republicans will support the bill who do not like the idea of imposing a tariff on Puerto Rican imports, but who believe that this is the time for congress to assert its rights to enact any legislation it pleases with regard to the new dependencies. Those who feel that way will vote for the bill in the hope that the tariff is to be further reduced.

It is felt that it will not do to extend the American navigation or tariff laws to the new dependencies as a matter of right or to entrust their people with citizenship in the United States.

The members of the delegation from Puerto Rico here for the purpose of urging the abolition of all duties have weakened their case somewhat by the kind of arguments they have advanced. One of the delegates—Mr. Finley formerly British vice-consul at San Juan—has brought large sugar plantations in the island. Another—Dr. Azei Ames—went from Massachusetts to Puerto Rico to enter the war with Spain to cleanse the island of empujados. He acquired interests there and expects to be territorial delegate in case the island is to have a delegate. Others do not conceal their desire to have Puerto Rico become a state, and all the legislation which they urge has that end in view. The delegates are, however, strongly inclined individual members may be to give the citizens of the island the privileges of free commercial intercourse with the United States.

BANISHED FROM THE STATE.

A Massachusetts Lad Must Remain Away for Two Years.

Clinton, Mass., Feb. 20.—Arthur Payne, a 15-year-old lad, was sentenced to be banished from the state for two years in the district court here today, after having pleaded guilty to a charge of forging a check.

Asent Walker, of the state board of charities, requested that the charge be placed on file on condition that Payne leave the state within ten days and not to return for two years. The arrangement was satisfactory to all concerned and the court pronounced sentence. The lad's father will take him to California to remain with friends until the period of his banishment expires. At the end of the two years, if he comes back to Massachusetts, he will be placed in charge of a probation officer.

STATE DEPARTMENT'S REPLY.

Answer to Resolution Concerning Macrum's Mail.

Washington, Feb. 20.—The state department has completed the preparation of the reply to be made to the house resolution inquiring into the allegations that ex-consul Macrum's mail had been opened by the British censor at Cape Town. The answer will be sent to the house tomorrow by the president as it is customary with communications of this kind from the state department.

It will show in brief that the department has no official knowledge whatever that there was any interference with the ex-consul's mail as he made no complaint to the department on the subject.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather indications today: CLOUDY; WARMER.

- 1 General—Boers Retreat from Colenso. Jameson Raid Before the British Parliament. Congress Considers the Puerto Rican Tariff Elections Throughout the State.
2 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial.
3 General—Whitney's Weekly New Budget.
4 Editorial. News and Comment.
5 Local—Result of Yesterday's Election in Detail.
6 Local—Truesdale Re-elected President of the D. L. & W.
7 Local—Estimates Committee Soon to Begin Work.
8 West Scranton and Suburban.
9 Round About the County.
10 Local—Live Industrial News.

SUDDEN DEATH OF SIDNEY BROADBENT

He Expired at 2 O'Clock This Morning After an Illness of Twelve Days—Sketch of His Career.

Sidney Broadbent died at 2 o'clock this morning at the family home, corner of Washington avenue and Mulberry street, after an illness of twelve days. Mrs. Broadbent died only seven weeks ago, January 4 last.

Mr. Broadbent was born in England in 1828 and came to this country in 1848. He was employed for a time as a machinist in Paterson. He was several years later made foreman of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western locomotive works in this city. In 1857 he engaged in the manufacture of locomotives at the Cliff works, but the business was soon absorbed by the Dickson Manufacturing company. Mr. Broadbent being retained as foreman. He remained in the employ of the company for thirty years, during fourteen of which he was general superintendent. In 1896 he retired from active work.

Mr. Broadbent was a prominent Republican and was also prominent in Masonic circles. He has always been considered one of the most successful men in the city and had a singularly wide circle of acquaintances. He was also an inventor of some note, having patented several articles.

DEMOCRATS WIN.

Municipal Water Responsible for Queer Political Franks.

Carbondale's full vote was polled yesterday and the count was slow coming in, especially from the outlying districts. At 11 o'clock it was certain that T. M. Nealon had been defeated for select council in the Third ward by Davis by 109 votes. Dr. Fletcher, Republican, won for select in the Fifth ward by 17 votes, and G. F. Swigert was defeated for the same office in the First by 17 votes. Peter Ruenburg, John Lynch, Morgan Thomas and A. T. Cook were elected poor directors and J. J. Gallagher, school director in the Third and Fourth. H. J. Hockinberry received the largest majority, 509, and was elected school director in the First, Second, Fifth and Sixth wards.

PEACEFUL BOYCOTT LEGAL.

According to Opinion of Judge Storer of the Kansas Courts.

Kansas City, Feb. 20.—Judge Storer, in the circuit court, today declared that labor unions had the legal right to put in force a peaceful boycott against employers on non-union labor and had a legal right to try by peaceful and fair persuasive measures to induce customers of a boycotted person or firm to quit that person or firm and patronize employers of union workers.

The decision was made in the suit of Avery, who claimed \$20,000 damages against members of the Master Horse-shoers' Protective association, of Kansas City, and the Journeymen Horse-shoers' union, No. 18, for boycotting his non-union horseshoeing shop. He claimed that the boycotters had greatly damaged his business, which had been lucrative. The jury, under instruction from the court, returned a verdict for the defendants.

WOMEN AT WASHINGTON.

Ninth Continental Congress of Daughters of the Revolution.

Washington, Feb. 20.—At today's session of the Ninth Continental congress of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the report of the committee on credentials, presented by Mrs. Eleanor Howard, of Virginia, showed the membership of the national society to be 21,152. Every state and every territory is represented.

The members of the society visited the White House to meet the president this afternoon. Nearly 900 persons attended the reception, each being given personal greeting by the president.

Steamship Arrivals.

New York, Feb. 20.—Arrived, Steamship Spearhead, from Rotterdam. Cleared, Noordland, for Antwerp. Oceanic, for Liverpool. St. Louis, for Southampton. Sailed, Lahn, for Bremen, via Southampton, Boulogne. Arrived Standard, from New York, for Rotterdam and proceeded.

ELECTIONS IN THE STATE

But Little Interest Manifested in Most Instances.

STRUGGLE IN PHILADELPHIA

Election in the City Brought Out a Much Heavier Vote Than is Usually Polled at Spring Elections. Midnight Returns Indicate That Ten Republicans Are Elected. Light Vote Elsewhere About the State—Political Revolution in Reading—Illegal Voting at Lancaster.

Philadelphia, Feb. 20.—The election in this city today brought out a much heavier vote than is usually polled at the spring elections, notwithstanding that none of the higher or administrative executive officers were to be selected. The interesting feature of the day was the voting for sixteen committing magistrates. Many of the wards voted for city councilmen, solicitors and other minor officials, but only ordinary interest was centered therein. The electors of the entire city participated only in the selection of magistrates. The heavy vote cast was the result of the efforts of reformers to defeat the candidates of the two regular parties. Although sixteen were to be chosen each elector was entitled to vote for but ten, the law thus providing for minority representation. The Republicans had twelve candidates and the Democrats six. The municipal league, in opposition to both regular parties, placed ten candidates on their ticket, one, O'Brien, was also on the Democratic ticket. The league ticket also included German and Neel, Republicans, and Lutzer and Eisenbrown, Democrats, which four are at present magistrates, but were turned down for re-nomination by their respective party leaders. There was a fierce cutting of tickets throughout the city, and the counting of the vote was therefore necessarily slow. The few men named above were especially favored by the independent voter. In a number of wards they led the regular Democratic nominees.

Returns from the forty-one wards of the city are coming in slowly. At midnight the returns for magistrates received indicate the election of the ten Republican candidates and the contest for the other six is very close between the Democratic and Municipal league nominees. Of the latter Lutzer, Eisenbrown, German and O'Brien run far ahead of their colleagues, O'Brien being on both tickets is certainly elected.

Potter in Line.

Coudersport, Pa., Feb. 20.—The Potter county special prohibitory law passed over twenty years ago was voted for repeal by from 1,000 to 1,200 majority. The special act for Coudersport borough was carried for no repeal by twenty-three majority. This means that the voters of Potter county, in line with the rest of the state under the Brooks Bense law and Coudersport borough will remain dry under its special act. This election was closely contested by both factions, regardless of party lines, and the result is due largely to the increased population incident to the development of the lumbering industry in the southern portion of the county. There is still a chance for a fight in the legislature on the constitutionality of this election.

Illegal Voting at Lancaster.

Lancaster, Pa., Feb. 20.—A light vote was polled at today's election for mayor, councilmen and three aldermen. The Republicans made gains in every district, electing their candidate, Dr. E. H. Mull-Bohr, by a majority of 1,065. The Republicans elected all their other candidates, Lewis Rauch, in the First, Fifth and Sixth wards, and Adam Delt in the Eighth ward. The Republicans retain a strong majority in both branches of council. There were arrests on both sides for illegal voting.

Political Revolution.

Reading, Pa., Feb. 20.—At today's election the Republicans secured eleven councilmen and the Democrats five. The Democrats control the present councils by one majority on joint ballot. In the new councils the Republicans will have a majority of two. This is the biggest political revolution in Reading in years.

Democratic Gains.

Bethlehem, Pa., Feb. 20.—Dig Democratic gains today resulted in a change in the political complexion of both town council and school board. The Democrats elected by a majority of 1,065. The Democrats elected all their other candidates, Lewis Rauch, in the First, Fifth and Sixth wards, and Adam Delt in the Eighth ward. The Republicans retain a strong majority in both branches of council. There were arrests on both sides for illegal voting.

Quiet at York.

York, Feb. 20.—The election was an unusually quiet one. Contests were pronounced in only a couple of wards. The select council will stand six Democrats and five Republicans. Common council will stand thirteen Democrats and eight Republicans. The school board will be a tie.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Feb. 20.—Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: Clear, Noordland, for Antwerp. Oceanic, for Liverpool. St. Louis, for Southampton. Sailed, Lahn, for Bremen, via Southampton, Boulogne. Arrived Standard, from New York, for Rotterdam and proceeded.